



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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### Situation Report Winter Storm Event/High Winds Event February 17, 2009 10:30 am

UPDATED INFORMATION IN BOLD

#### SUMMARY

A cold front pushed into Missouri on January 26<sup>th</sup>, mixing with Gulf moisture and creating hazardous weather conditions. High winds on February 11<sup>th</sup> caused additional damage in southern Missouri. There have been eight fatalities associated with the storm. Six people were killed in traffic accidents that occurred on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Two more people died in New Madrid County from carbon monoxide poisoning while operating a generator in their garage. **Officials report power is out for about 2,121 customers across southeast Missouri. Dept of Social Services report there is 1 shelter remains on standby with no clients at this time. Officials report full power restoration is expected this week.**

Governor Nixon directed SEMA to activate the State Emergency Operations Center and signed an Executive Order activating the Missouri National Guard for State Emergency Duty. On January 30<sup>th</sup>, the President approved Gov. Nixon's request for emergency assistance. On February 6<sup>th</sup>, Governor Nixon sent a letter to the President asking for disaster assistance in 22 impacted counties. The request is being review by FEMA. Governor Nixon signed Executive Order 09-07, authorizing DNR's Director to waive certain restrictions related to debris disposal, open burning and wastewater, on January 30, 2009 and effective until March 31, 2009.

#### Power outages - Utilities:

**Missouri Electric Cooperatives –Cooperatives are reporting approximately 1921 customers without power.** They are working to have a majority of outages repaired sometime later today with full restoration Wednesday evening.

**Missouri Public Utilities Alliance - Under 200 customers remain without power in Kennett and power is expected to be fully restored by Wednesday night.**

#### Counties/Cities Reports:

**Dunklin County – Officials report power has been fully restored to all cities but there are some power outages remaining in the southern half of the County.** All Boil Water Orders have been lifted. All schools are now open.

**New Madrid County – Officials report a 59-year-old woman and a 15-year-old girl died from carbon monoxide poisoning from running a generator in the garage at their house. The EOC has returned to normal operations. Officials' report schools are back in session.**

**Pemiscot County** – All schools are back in session. **Officials report power is still out in the southern part of the county, but is expected to be mostly restored by Wednesday night.**

**Stoddard County** – All schools are back in session. **Officials reported most all power outages are restored in the County.**

**State Agencies:**

**ESF-1 Transportation** - Missouri Department of Transportation reports **2 roads are closed due to utility damage.** MoDOT has extended an Emergency Declaration 09-01 for carriers operating in emergency relief efforts in our state.

**ESF-2 Communications** – MSHP and PSC are working phone problems with the carriers, especially landlines. All wireless service has been restored.

**ESF-3 Public Works** – DNR/Water is working to assist local jurisdictions with their water utility system issues. They are issuing information on disinfecting water and sending water flushing/boiling guidance to southeast Missouri schools.

**ESF-4/9 Fire/Search and Rescue** - Standing by for requests.

**ESF-5 Emergency Management** - SEMA is at level-two activation and will operate the State EOC from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily until further notice.

**ESF-6 Human Services** - Department of Social Services and partners -- American Red Cross, Salvation Army, AmeriCorps, United Way 211, Humane Society and others -- are continuing to serve several communities in the affected area. One shelter remains on standby. The Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC)s registered more than 2,069 people.

**ESF-7 Logistics** –As generators are being freed up, they are being reassigned or returned. MO Office of Administration and Dept. of Corrections continue to have personnel and equipment delivering generators.

**ESF- 8 Public Health** – Department of Health and Senior Services continues to monitor the situation for emergency health/medical needs. Dept. of Mental Health (DMH) is assisting local healthcare providers as needed. Disaster-related fact sheets are on DMH website.

**ESF-10 Hazardous Materials** – DNR-EER is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. Looking into debris management issues.

**ESF-11 Agriculture** – Dept. of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and handling some poultry issues that have arisen. Agriculture Department is checking building collapses in southeast Missouri and animal carcass removal.

**ESF-12 Energy** – DNR Energy working to make sure fuel will be available for distribution in the affected area.

**ESF-13 Public Safety** – Missouri State Highway Patrol has troopers assisting local jurisdictions as requested, working accidents and keeping highways cleared of accidents. Missouri State Water Patrolmen are assisting local jurisdictions in which they live.

**ESF-14 Long Term Recovery** – DNR/Parks mobilized crews into New Madrid and Mississippi Counties to begin restoration/recovery efforts at one historical site and one state park. Both locations were damaged in the storm and are without power.

**ESF-15 Public Affairs** – A two-page Citizen Disaster Information Flyer has been prepared and is now posted on the SEMA homepage.

**ESF-16 Missouri National Guard** – MONG has its citizen-soldiers assisting with the disaster response effort.

**ESF-17 Animal Welfare** – A Humane Society of Missouri survey team is in southeast Missouri to assist local jurisdictions. 196 animals rescued to date. Most of the animals have been returned to their owners. A few others are still being cared for until power has been restored to homes of their owners.

#### **Volunteer Agencies:**

**United Way – 211** – Requests are coming in for replacement food funding and cleanup assistance, electrical weather head, food, water, and home damage should call United Way 211. They have received over 870 plus calls to date.

**American Red Cross** – 5 fixed feeding sights are in operation in the southeast. Assisting where requested at this time.

**AmeriCorps Volunteers** – Several Teams are providing support for shelters, multi-agency resource centers, volunteer co-ordination, call-center support and debris removal. Approximately **17 AmeriCorps Volunteers** are working this disaster throughout the area.

**Salvation Army** – The Salvation Army is assisting with on-going requests, and provided support to the Multi-Agency Resource Centers.

#### **Weather:**

**In Northern Missouri:** Today, A 20 percent chance of rain after noon, with a high near 44. Wind 14 to 16 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph. Tonight, a chance of rain and thunderstorms, with a low around 32. Wind 9 to 14 mph. Winds could gust as high as 18 mph. Wednesday, a chance of rain and snow before noon, then a chance of flurries, high near 36. Wind 15 to 22 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph. **In Southern Missouri:** Today, a 40 percent chance of showers, with a high near 45. Wind 13 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 29 mph. Tonight, chance of showers and thunderstorms, temperature holding steady in mid 40s. Wind 15 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Wednesday, partly sunny, high near 56. Wind 15 to 21 mph with gusts as high as 33 mph. Wednesday Night, mostly cloudy, low in the upper 20s. Wind 16 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph.

#### **Point of Contact:**

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. daily. Emergency calls after hours can be made to the Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.